NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1874.

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WASHINGTON.

THE DISTRICT INVESTIGATION. NEW AND IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS-ENORMOUS ROBBERY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE DISTRICT BY MEANS OF FALSE MEAS-UREMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS-REPORT OF THE ENGINEER APPOINTED TO VERIFY THE MEASURE-

BARCOCK OR HIS ENGINEER. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, May 14.-One of the most serious ecusations that were originally made against the Washington Board of Public Works and against Col. Samo, the engineer employed by Gen. Babcock to verify the bills made out against the United States, was that the measurements on the basis of which both the Government and citizens of Washington were called to pay assessments for special improvements, were falsely and fraudulently incor-In order to determine beyond question whether these measurements had been in the main correct the Committee selected, soon after its organization, an engineer in whose accuracy and honesty there could be no doubt. The man chosen was Mr. Blickensderfer, an engineer of thirty years' experience, during which time he was for many years a member of the Ohio Board of Public Works, and for some time its engineer and president. He has also been employed by the United States on the Pacific railroads, and on works near West Point. He came to Washington several weeks ago, and has spent his time in attempting to verify specimen measurements in various parts of the city, on the theory that if these were found to be correct, the conclusion might be deduced that all of the measurements were substantially correct, and rice versa.

Mr. Blickensderfer's measurements have been of two kinds: First, such material as can now be seen and measured, such as pavement, curbing, brick sidewalk, sewer, fencing, &c.; and, second, grading which has to be estimated from landmarks or from cross sections and profiles made before the work was begun. Of the first class of measurements, the engineer reported to-day upon three-those on which charges against the Government were made for work about P-st. circle, Scott-square, and Rawlins-square. He found that in some cases the separate items of measurements were excessive, and in some cases they were too small; but that the aggregate charge against the United States, in each case, was too great, the amount ranging from a few hundred dollars to more than \$7,000.

In selecting points at which to measure the grading, Mr. Blickensderfer chose those where the engineers of the Board of Public Works had preserved profiles, cross sections, and other data from from which to make estimates, as the comparisons in those cases were much more easy to make than where the Board engineers arrived at the amount of grading by guesses more or less rough. He reported to-day on six cases of this kind. The discrepancies in these cases were much greater than in those already referred to.

On New-Hampshire-ave, the contractors for grading were overbaid \$6,281, and the United States overcharged \$17,739. On Virginia-ave, the amount of grading done was 102.657 yards; the contractors were paid for 103,600 yards, and the United States Government charged for 104,000. The charge made against the United States, and paid, was \$52,693, while it should have been \$41,909. On G-st. the grading done was 12,402 yards; the contractors were paid for removing 16,229 yards, and the United States paid for 33,809 yards. The amount paid contractors for the work was \$8,861, and the United States Government paid \$21,412. The total overcharge to the United States on this street, in-cluding the sewer, was \$17,683. On Maryland-ave, the contractors were paid \$91,167; the United States Government charged \$92,909, and the correct charge would have been \$62,900.

Around the Patent and Post-Offices, the grading was paid for by the day's work; that is, the contractor had his pay-rolls and other expenses reimbursed, and he was given a percentage of profit. Mr. Blickensderfer found that this grading cost the United States \$2 06 a yard in F-st., and \$2 15 a yard in Seventh-st. There was included in this a estimated in this way, Second-st., from Pennsylvania-ave. to H-st., was estimated by Mr. Blickensderfer. He found that the amount of grading was about 9,106 yards, while the contractor was paid for

Mr. Blickensderfer's measurements covered only about five per cent of the whole work done, so that if the discrepancies should turn out to be as great all over the city, the robbery of the United States Government and of the citizens must have been enormous. The ngineer said that he had shown his work to Gen. Babcock and Col. Samo, and given them an opportunity to explain, and that Col-Samo had accompanied him while he was engaged on a part of the work. The revelations of fraud in measurements are the town talk to-night. SEMI-OFFICIAL DETAILS OF MR. BLICKENSDERFER'S

TESTIMONY. [GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] Washington, May 14 .- The most damaging testimony in connection with the District of Columbia investigation was elicited to-day by the examination of Blickensderfer, the expert engineer employed by the Committee to make measurements around Government property. The witness testified that he had measured Government had been overcharged. According to his measurement the work should have cost \$74,789 97; whereas according to Col Samo's measurement the Government has paid \$78,540 15. On Scott-square the Government has been overcharged \$2,000, giving Samo the benefit of his own estimate of grading. On Rawlins-square witness measured it to cost \$22,210 31. It was charged against the Government at \$22,363 90. made by him of upward of \$14,000, which does not ap-pear in Gov. Shepherd's answer, but which Col Samo alleges has been credited to the Government and covered into the Treasury. The greatest overcharges were in grading. Witness measured | New-Hampshire-ave., and ascertained that it should have cost \$109,223, but is charged in the Governor's answer at \$149,484, making an

excess of charge against the United States of \$40,251.

He found that contractors, in several instances, had

been overpaid. On New-Hampshire ave. they have

been paid for work in excess of what has been done. Hulsey, a contractor, was overpaid \$1,000. Murray was overpaid \$528 31. The next point witness measured was Virginia-ave.; had complete notes of the entire aven cross sections and profiles. The grading, including the reservations at Twenty fourth and G-sts., is 102,657 yards. There was allowed the contractor 103,000 yards. The Government was charged 104,000 yards at 40 cents and haul at 36 cents. The correct charge to the United States Government should be \$41,909 33. The overcharge is \$10,784. On G-st., between Twenty-fourth and Twentysixth-sts., witness found the grading 12.492 yards. The contractor was allowed 16.239 yards. The Government was overcharged 21.407 yards, or in dollars \$12.509 91. The Government is also overcharged 21.407 yards, or in dollars \$12.509 91. The Government is also overcharged on a sewer on the work. It is charged for over 3.000 feet, and there are only some 700 feet on the work making the total overcharged \$17.583 58. Witness explained that the difference in overpayment was made by paying the contractors twice for the work at the intersection of the feservation at Twenty sixth and G-sts. The Government has paid twice for the work on Maryland-ave, East. Witness found the grading to be 221.268 yards, while the amount energed the Government was for over 257.000 yards. The contractors were allowed \$91,65 31, and the Government was charged and paid \$2 530 23 as its preportion, and more than the entire cost, as shown by payments to contractors. The Government should have paid \$62,509 77. The overcharge paid amounts to \$19.50 46. eixth-etc., witness found the grading 12,402 yards.

yards. There was allowed to the contractor over 23,000 yards, he being overpaid \$6,852 15. Witness stated that he had looked at other work, but had not brought it to a final conclusion because he could not get data. With regard to Second-st., between Indiana-ave, and H-st., its contractor is allowed 24,445 yards. The entire length and breadth of the work charged would have to be excavated three feet and several inches along its entire length to make up the charge, and it does not bear evidence of having been made. Witness said that in the work measured by him he saw no evidence of rock excavation which is charged the Government, where it is alleged to have been made, at it per yard. The Government is charged for the grading and hauling. The Government is charged of the grading and hauling. The Government is charged usually larger by ten cents on excavation and about five cents in the hanking than is paid the contractor. On G-st. the Government is charged along than was paid the contractor. On unaryland-ave, the hall paid the contractor varies from 1½ cents to 21 cents; three-fourths of the charge is at 9 cents; the Government is charged the whole at 15 cents. In making his measurements, witness used the profiles and hotes furnished by the Board of Public Works, and in approximating the cost used the rates established by the Board as paid to contractors.

The witness said he had examined the accounts and vouchers in the office of the Board of Public Works, and in approximating the cost used the rates established by the Board sapaid to contractors.

The witness said he had examined the accounts regarding measurements. When he first found his results on New-Hampshire-ave, he asked Mr. Samo if he could explain the difference. He answered that he supposed his notes would explain which he furnished then went with Samo on the ground and pointed out the discrepancies. He answered that he had to include some old work done before the Board of Fublic Works came in. Witness also called on Gen. Babcock and gave him an oppor MENT-NO EXPLANATION YET MADE BY GEN.

Col. Magrader was recalled to explain why he had diverted bonds appropriated for a specific current diverted bonds appropriated for a specific purpose in payment of work foreign to the appropriation. His ex-planation was that the provisions of the law had never been pointed out to him.

A NEW CURRENCY BILL.

THE SENATE AGREES UPON ANOTHER PLAN OF IN-FLATION-A SERIES OF EASY VICTORIES OVER THE HONEST CURRENCY PARTY-A PRACTICAL MEASURE OF RELIEF VOTED DOWN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, May 14 .- The Senate perfected another Currency bill to-day for the President to veto. The inflationists opened the ball this afternoon with a decisive victory, which demonstrated that they President had placed the stamp of his disapprobation upon their suicidal doctrines, and they steadily held the advantage they thus gained until the presiding officer declared the bill passed, only once coming so near to defeat as to arouse among them

The pending amendment when the debate opened was that of Senator Wright, providing that the greenbacks to be retired under the provisions of this bill should be equal to 25 and not 50 per cent of the amount of new bank notes issued. This was a test question. Several of the honest currency party. like Senators Sherman and Scott and Chandler, were willing to compromise on the bill as reported by the Committee, though others thought the bill about as objectionable as a professed compromise measure could be. But these Senators would not agree to any amendment that removed a single one of the so-called cuards of the bill. The question that at once arose, and which was decided by the vot on Senator Wright's first amendment, was whether or not the inflationists could afford to throw away the votes of these men for the sake of making the bill more loose in its provisions. The vote stood 32 Yeas to 24 Nays. An examination of the roll will show that the inflationists got only one or two votes from their opponents, and those were of men whose stability on currency questions has always been doubtful. The next vote, by which the Senate refused to agree to Senator Chandler's motion to lay the bill and amendments on the table, was even more decisive, for the honest currency party, weakened by absentees, dwindled to 19, while the inflationists mustered 35 votes.

After this, the inflations had everything their own vay. Amendment after amendment was put upon the bill, at the instance of Senator Wright, but the only one of great importance was the third, which made the bond in which the Secretary may redeem greenbacks after July 1, 1878, if he has not com, a 4) per cent bond instead of a 5 per cent.

Once, only, did the honest currency party even approach a victory, and that was on a motion of Senator Coukling's to substitute a bill ordering an payment for lowering a main. A great part of the | immediate redistribution of \$46,000,000 of bank curgrading in the city has been done without preparing | reney, after having withdrawn it from the Eastern beforehand any data from which to estimate the and Middle States. This was a practical measure of amount. In such cases as this the amount to be relief for the West and South, and one that might betionists-that of Senator Bogy-but was beaten by two majority, the vote standing 27 to 29. After this, the honest currency party made no more effective opposition, and the inflationists passed their bill shortly after 6 o'clock.

GRAVE CHARGES AGAINST AN EX-FOREIGN MINISTER.

ALLEGED DISHONEST CONDUCT OF GEN. JAS. WATSON WEBB-THE CIRCUMSTANCES AS GIVEN TO THE FOREIGN COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE,

WASHINGTON, May 14.-There are some very ugly developments pending in the Foreign Committee of the House, regarding the conduct of James Watson Webb, while United States Minister to Brazil. During the Paraguayan war, a controversy arose between [Gen. Webb and the Brazilian Government regarding a claim for a vessel condemned in one of the Barzilian ports. The resources of Brazil. as is well known, were severely taxed by the war, and all foreign complications were avoided. A demand was made on the Brazilian Government, by Gen. Webb, for the payment of the money due on account of the ship, and under threat of striking the flag of the United States Legation, the money was paid, and in due time the State Department received a remittance from Gen. Webb, with a statement of the circumstances. Subsequently, after discussion and correspondence, the United States Government became convinced that the money was unjustly held, and an offer was made to refund it with interest, and the tender was accepted. But when the \$15,000 with interest was offered, the Brazilian agent declined to receive it, and said the sum due was four or five times as much. The State Department for a momenti did not understand itself. It was unable to see where the \$40,000 or \$50,000 had gone. Explanations were demanded, and Gen. Webb's receipt was produced, showing that the sum claimed by Brazil had been paid him. He is said to have given some lame excuses to the State Department of having been obliged to pay for justice at the hands of the Brazilian Government. Webb's bank account in London was found to have been largely increased at about that time, and now the State Department comes to Congress for the money to pay Brazil. This explanation will probably be made to-morrow by a member of the Foreign Committee, in case anybody makes an inquiry as to the character of Brazil's claim when the subject is before the House.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. PLANS FOR THE RELIEF OF THE FAMILY OF THE

ARCTIC EXPLORER HALL.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 14, 1874. Prof. Henry Peter Parker and other prominent gentlemen were in consultation with the House Naval Committee to-day, with reference to the character of aid to be given by Congress to the widow and family of Capt. Hall, the Arctic explorer. As previously stated, some of her friends advocated bave paid \$62,500 ft. The covercharge paid amounts to Miness each the grading around the Patent and Post-Offices, according to the vanishers of the Board, cost the United States \$480 per cubic yard for the carrier moved. On Second-at, between Pennsylvania-ave, and no notes. He treat the man assuments of the Polaris crew, was also date of the discharge of the Polaris crew, was also discussed. No conclusion has been reached by the fall of a pension, the manity and integrily are honored throughout the world. I session the fall of the Manther's building, in long the fall of Manther's building, in long to the valuable records and memory from injuries received by the fall of Manther's building, in long to the valuable records and memory from injuries received by the fall of Manther's building, in long to the valuable records and memory from injuries received by the fall of Manther's building, in long to the Manther's building, in long to the valuable records and memory from injuries received by the fall of Manther's building, in long to the Manther's building, in long the fall of Man

Committee. Prof. Henry gave the Committee a sug gestion this morning that may be of mutual profit to the Government and to Mrs. Hall. It is that the records and papers of her late husband be turned over to a Commission of scientific gentle men to assemble at the Smithsonian Instituand that they be carefully examined with a view to ascertaining if they are of any value to the cause of science or history, and that the Committee shall report and decide the sum to be paid for them if found worth purchasing. It is understood that in some of the papers there are facts bearing on the herrible death of Sir John Franklin, and that the close of his life, as unquestionably established by Capt. Hall, was so ghastly and fearful that he could not bring himself to disclose the details during the lifetime of Lady Franklin.

THE ENGRAVING AND PRINTING INVESTIGA-

Tion.

The Presidents of the American and National Bank Note Companies made statements before the Committee on Banking and Currency to-day relative to conversations with Secretary Richardson in January and February last on the subject of the contract with the Columbian Bank Note Company of Washington. They said the Secretary was uncertain as to whether the contracts had been given, or if given, what part of the fractional currency bills it intended, but promised to inquire and ascertain the facts. Mr. Hubbard, on behalf of the bank note companies, then requested that Mr. McCartee be requested to attend before the Committee, and be examined as to the charges made against him with regard to the secret processes used by him in the preparation of paper, and generally in rela ion to his accounts with the Printing Bureau, as he had not yet answered written interrogatories. The Committee in secret session determined to netify Mr. McCartee to appear Saturday next.

PASSAGE OF THE DEFICIENCY BILL BY THE

HOUSE. If the House continues to push things in the manner now practiced, an early adjournment after all is possible. The Deficiency bill, one of the most troublesome of the appropriation bills, was briefly considered beretofore in committee, and very little progress made. It was resumed to-day and rushed through the House like a whirlwind. Very few amendments were made, and they were of an unimportant character. One item in the bill was to pay John W. Wright, an old Indian agent, who has become rich from the advantages he has had, \$9,000 for rept of buildings occupied by the Government. Mr. Shanks of Indiana, Wright's State, denounced Wright in the severest language. He said he was a public plunderer—a plunderer by instinct—besides being a forger, and bestowed upon him other designations not less complimentary. He said he did not expect to defeat the item, but he wanted the public to know what sort of a man rented buildings to the Government. The item passed.

PATCHING THE FREEDMEN'S BANK. After a sharp discussion in the House to-day, the bill to patch up the Freedmen's Savings Bank was passed. Mr. Bromberg showed that instead of the \$250,000 of bad debts, the branches of the bank would increase the sum to \$500,000. He characterized the securities in some cases, "as not worth a continental cent." Mr. Durham of the Banking and Currency Committee acknowledged, he having charge of the bill, that the affairs of the bank had not been conducted properly, but he referred to the unlawful, almost criminal conduct of the officers of the bank, as "irregularities." Mr. Bromberg showed the character of the securities, pointing out the improbability of realizing upon them. Fred-erick Douglass's letter, which was read, said he hoped to be able to pay dollar for dollar—a hope that nobody else having any knowledge of the books can share.

EXPORTATION OF DISTILLED SPIRITS. Mr. F. O. Boyd of New-York appeared to-day before the Conference Committee on the bill to facili-tate the exportation of distilled spirits. Commissioner Douglass also appeared in opposition to the House bill providing for the release of distillers' bonds upon proof of shipment for any jurisdiction of the United States. Both houses agreed to this. The questions at issue were regarding an allowance on spirits of two per cent for leakage in transit, and a release from taxation when destroyed between the West and the scaboard. The Conference Committee refused to make leakage and destruction allowances, but agreed to reduce the export stamp from 25, as under the present law, to 10 cents per barrel.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 14, 1874. United States Indian Agent Miles reports from the traders and horse-thieves are reaming through the country occupied by the Cheyennes and Arrapahoes, especially along the line of the Texas cattle trail, and especially along the line of the Texas cattle trail, and that their presence there and their dealings with the Indians had given rise to considerable trouble and anoyance, and that the public good demands their immediate expulsion. He therefore asks of the military officer commanding Camp Supply to send a detachment to drive out or arrest the desperadoes. Col. Brooks, the officer commanding, replies that he cannot interfere, being prevented by law from furnishing troops to aid in the execution of civil processes except by orders from the President. The letter has been forwarded here for action by the Secretary of War.

The following is the official statement of postal cards

The following is the official statement of postal cards furnished the post-offices named for the period from May 12, 1873, to May 11, 1874, inclusive : Number of cards-New-York, 12,500,000; Boston, 6,102,000; Chicage, \$5,200,000; Philadelphia, 5,000,000; St. Louis, 3,600,000; \$5,200,000; Philadelphia, 5,000,000; St. Louis, 3,600,000; Cincinnati, \$2,400,000; Baltimore, 1,875,000; Buffalo, 1,500,000; St. Louis, 1,500,000; Buffalo, 1,500,000; Railington, 1,175,000; Detroit, 1,500,000; Louisville, 1,000,000; Cleveland, 505,000; Minwaukee, 800,000; Indianapolis, 720,000; aggresate, 4,578, 800. The whole number of postal cards furnished the post-offices throughout the United States for the year ending May 11 was 113,620,000. The estimate by the Department for the first year was 100,000,000.

It appears from official data that the amount of money paid for transportation of property and United States troops for the calendar years of 1872 and 1873 on 24 landgrant railroads was \$195.493. Of this amount, the Atchi grant railroads was \$195.423. Of this amount, the Atomson, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad Company received \$19.864; the Chicago and North-Western, \$14.742; the Hillinois Central, \$25.184; the St. Paul and Pacine, \$33.600; the Mobile and Montgomery, \$25.519. All the other companies received smaller amounts.

A claim has been pending before the Committee of War Claims involving the question whether the Government is liable, upon principles of international law, to make compensation for the use and occupation of property in Alexandria during the rebellion. A report will be submitted by the Committee holding the affirmative.

Natural History in the Central Park invited the President to lay the corner-stone of the magnificent fire-proof edifice now in process of erection for their occupation by the Department of Public Parks, and the President has now appointed Tuesday, June 2, at 2 o'clock, as the

has now appointed Tuesday, June 2, at 2 o'clock, as the time for that ceremony.

A caucus of Southern members of the House, repre senting 11 States, was held to-day at the Capitol, their object being to perfect a bill for a refund of the cotton The Navy Department is advised that the Pensacola

sailed from Callao April 28 for San Francisco, and will arrive at that port about the middle of June. For Regular Report of Congressional Proceedings see Second Page.

THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE AND GOV. DIX. ALBANY, May 14 .- Last night's dispatch from Kingston was not correctly copied. The opposition to the anti-Dix resolution in the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, which met in that city yesterday, was made by the leaders of the Prohibition party and in its interest. During the discussion, which was sharp and protracted, those gentlemen denounced the Repub cause, and invited temperance Republicans to come into their party as the only ark of safety. When the vote was taken two-thirds of the delegates had left to take the boar, and the resolution was voted down by two majority of those remaining.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TELEGRAPH. A man named Henry Young, recently from England, committed suicide, at Toronto yesterday, by shooting timeelf

A MERCHANTS' FEAST.

THE PRODUCE EXCHANGE BANQUET. SPEECHES OF FRANKLIN EDSON, CHARLES T. GOOD-

WIN, DWIGHT TOWNSEND, AND OTHERS. The members of the New-York Produce Exchange held their annual dinner at Delmonico's last evening. The attendance was large, and the feast was exceedingly animated. There was a livelier cordialty, a brisker jollity than is seen at the annual banquets of some older and graver organizations, due perhaps to the large proportion of young merchants present. There were over 150 who took seats at the tastefully-arranged tables.

The decorations of the dinner were principally upon the tables; in the middle of each was an elaborate basket containing a mass of the fairest flowers, and toward the ends were graceful exotics in pots, while slender trees, with temples, castles, emblems of trade, pieces of statuary, and prettily devised fountains, were some of the daintily fashioned ornaments in sugar, together with less perishable

The influences of the feasting, the music, and the unrestrained merry-making characteristic of the occasion, excited a great deal of enthusiastic feeling among the banqueters, which broke out in vigorous applause for toasts and speeches, and in other ways expressive of a very emphatic resolution to have a good time. Cheers were frequent and hearty. The name of the Hon, William M. Evarts, given for the second toast, was greeted with the liveliest marks of approval. The speakers were Franklin Edson, President of the Exchange; Charles T. Goodwin, Mr. Hentz, Vice-President of the Cotton Exchange; the Hon, Dwight Townsend, George L. Blanchard, Second Vice-President of Erie, and

THE GUESTS AND RESPONSES.

At the center or table of honor sat the President of the Stock Exchange and presiding officer of the dinner, Franklin Edson. At his right sat Henry Hentz, B. W. Floyd, G. L. Blanchard of the Eric Railway, Archibald Baxter, B. C. Bogert, and E. T. Husted. Townsend, Isaac H. Reed, one of the youngest men but oldest merchants in the trade present ; A. E. McMasters, Abram S. Jewell, ex-President of the Produce Exchange; C. S. Goodwin, and J. H. Herrick.

Among the more prominent persons present were, first, Henry W. Smith, to whom, as one of the Committee of Arrangements, the admirable appointments of the dinner are due; H. L. Routh of H. L. Routh & Co.; Lewis Roberts, F. Sherwood, Henry H. Rogers of the firm of Charles Prail & Co.; David A. Griggs, W. B. Steers, F. H. Allen, S. H. Grant, John H. Boynton, Leonard Hasel tine, jr., of Jesse Hoyt & Co.; Henry T. Kneeland, C. E. Heuberer, Forest H. Parker, Wm. H. Philips, and J. N. Starin of the New-York Central and Hudson River Rail

After the dinner proper had been partaken of, the President, Mr. Edson, said among other things:

After the dinner proper had been partaken of, the President, Mr. Edson, said among other things:

Permit me to congratulate you, gentlemen, upon the increased usefulness and influence of our organization, as manifested in its enlarged membership, and in the activity shown in every branch of business on our floors. The stability of the merchants composing our organization has been clearly illustrated in the success with which they weathered the recent financial tempest which swept over the country.

We observe without regret the increasing importance of railroads as vehicles for carrying grain; and we believe that these copporations should be left free to regulate their own affairs while they refrain from oppression. We believe that our canals should be enlarged and fostered as the great regulators of internal commerce. To this end we oppose the pernicious policy involved in the proposed Canal Funding amendment, and count it one of the happiest results of the year that we were enabled to kill it. We direct your attention, also, to the negotiations for the grading and delivery of grain, now pending with the principal railroad corporations, whereby the facility for handling grain at this port will be largely increased. This is a matter to which too much importance cannot be attached by us. Boston, Baltimore, and Philadelphia are doing everything in their power to withdraw the trade from us, and unless we eliminate from our grain traffic every possible element of cost, delay, and uncertainty, we shall fall back in our relative position.

At the conclusion of the President's remarks he announced as the first regular toast "Our Institution," and called upon Chas. T. Goodwit to respect Mr.

nounced as the first regular toast "Our Institution," and called upon Chas. T. Goodwin to respond. Mr Goodwin, after a preliminary word of congratulation and a reference to the history of the Produce Exchange ince its organization in 1861, and the assembling in the little store at the corner of Broad and South-sts., then belonging to Mr. Douglass, added:

belonging to Mr. Douglass, added:

Our institution has been rapidly growing in influence and character ever since. Nobler principles guide us now than then in the transaction of our business. [Applause.] It is no longer certain that any man may go down to the Produce Exchange and transact business in any way that he picases, and go home and have nobody to call him to account for it. The time has come when a man must have a character to belong to the New-York Produce Exchange. The influence this institution has exerted upon our own and upon neighboring cities is very great and very healthful. We talk a great deal about Chicago. It is a great city, and they "don't do any small things out at Chicago." [laughter], but when I was in Chicago at few years ago I could not help but notice the influence this Exchange had upon Chicago. I went on the floor early in the morning, and when I asked, "Gentiemen, what are you doing here this morning i" they said: "Nothing; have n't had any news from New-York yet? Isinghter], and I think to-day, with all due respect for Chicago, that New-York rules her, and I am equally sure that Boston don't do much until she hears from us. [Applause.] So, gentlemen, I appreciate the New-York Produce Exchange, and am not only proud of it, but pleased to see its members coming together fraternally in social gatherings. I think from this time forth we may look to one evening a year in which to greet each other as friends and brothers, and talk about something besides pork and flour. [Applause.]

To the second toast, "Our Honorary Member," the Hon. Wm. M. Evarts was to have responded, but a letter

Hon. Wm. M. Evarts was to have responded, but a letter of regret from him was read, and the President, after adding a graceful compliment to the writer, introduced Mr. Heutz, Vice-President of the Cotton Exchange, to respond to the third regular toast, "Our Invited Guests-the Presidents of the Cotton Exchange and the Grocers' Beard of Trade." With an expression of regret at the necessary absence of Mr. Graves, the President. through sickness, and a few words of congratulation to the members of the Produce Exchange, he paid a high compliment to Stephen D. Harrison for the great assistance he had rendered in the formation of the Cotton Exchange, and for this Mr. Harrison, one of the most esteemed members of the Produce Exchange, received three hearty cheers. The membership of the Cotton Exchange, said the speaker, is now 400, and we hav equired a property valued at \$200,000.

To the second part of the last toast, Dwight Townsend replied on behalf of the Grocers' Board of Trade. Said

I am a representative of a very young member of soci-I am a representative of a very young member of society in a community sense. It seems to me that the period is arriving when the gold and the glitter of martial movements can well be laid aside. Peace has equal triumphs in mercantile life with that of blood and war, it seems to me, looking at you here, that a brighter star arises when men, laying aside bitterness and selfishness and cupidity, can meet together on terms of social friendiness.

Mr. Townsend alluded in the remainder of his speech to the part he played in assisting in that great moral triumph of the nineteenth century—the Geneva arbitration -which had been referred to in the course of the evening. He added:

ing. He added:

The newspapers, in the language off Gen. Butler—Here the jeers became noisy and prolonged.] I make no reference to the opinion he may express, but I am at liberty to speak of him as a man of great brightness of apprehension. [Laughter.] His plans were impeded and his purposes thwarted until he said in very memorable tones. "God made me, and not the newspapers!" The newspapers undoubtedly do a great deal of good, but we are unfortunately made to know that they can sometimes he the messengers of evil. But the Produce Exchange is coming forward with its hundreds of members, and we are on the stage of progress. The brighter day is coming when the politicians' tasks will come to naught, when men can meet together to consult the public welfare and give their united voices in favor of good government.

To the fourth toast—" Railroads and Canals"—George

To the fourth toast-" Railroads and Canals"-George L. Blanchard, Second Vice-President of the Eric Railway, replied. After making acknowledgment for the honor of his reception, he referred to a recent inspection by himself of the original subscription to spection by immed the property of this country. The first signatures were the well-remembered names of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Roger B. Taney, and George Peabody. The first signed the declaration that a new nation should come into free being; the second anchored the Constitution to the rock of eternal civil and reaglous liberty; and the third carried the standard of commercial and linancial credit wherever his constitution to the rock of eternal civil and reaglous liberty; and the third carried the standard of commercial and linancial credit wherever his constitution of the constitution of the constitution of the constitution of the commercial and linancial credit wherever his constitution of the constitution

managed as our banks, for they are equally the custodians of the public credit. If railway charges are excessive, our crops and our mineral wealth will be kept back. That railway policy is the wisest which furnishes the best transportation at the least cost, and that public policy is wisest which leaves a fair margin of profit both to railways and to shippers. Special legislation should be avoided. We should act together. The railways desire constant traffic at a fair margin of profit, and want proper terminal facilities to attract business to your wharves and warehouses. If, to use railway parlance, New York merchants and the railways are well tied, spiked, and spliced together, with no decayed sleepers, and with bright burning head lights, we will make New-York the great depot of the products of the world.

Leonard Hazeltine was called upon to respond for the canal interests. Archibald Haxter, in replying to the toast "Our Foreign Commerce," dwelt upon the advantages of exporters over importers in that they were not oppressed by Government.

H. H. Bogger was appointed to reply to the toast.

tages of exporters over importers in that they were not oppressed by Government.

H. H. Rogers was appointed to reply to the teast,
"The Petroleum Trade," but was called away before the teast was given. John T. Wyman answered for "Woman," and the Hon. Hugh J. Hastings made a humous reply to a teast to "The Press." The concluding teast, "In Memoriam," was drunk in silence. Merry impromptu speeches were made by soveral persons toward the close of the festivity.

THE ARKANSAS CONTEST.

THE LEGISLATURE ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT FOR AID-BAXTER'S MESSAGE. LITTLE ROCK, May 14.—Both Houses met this

rning and adopted the following joint resolution:

morning and adopted the following joint resolution:

Whereas, The Legislature of the State of Arkanasa has
convened, a quorum of each House being present; and
Whereas, The saie House is now in possession of
armed troops; therefore be it
Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of
Arkanasa, That the President of the United States be
and is hereby requested to put this Legislature in
possession of the Legislative Halls, and that the public
property, on State House-square, be placed under the
supervision and control of this body, the legal custodians
thereof while in session, and that he make such order
for the disposition of said armed contending forces as
will more perfectly protect the State against domestic
violence and insure this body protection; and that a
duly certified copy of this resolution be at once transmitted to the President of the United States.

In the House a large number of notices of the intro-In the House a large number of notices of the intro

duction of bills were given, among others, for the calling of a Constitutional Convention.

The situation as to the two armed forces remains un

The Senate appointed a committee to act in conjunc tion with the House committee appointed yesterday to notify to Baxter that the General Assembly was ready to receive any message he might desire to deliver. Baxter's message, it is thought, will be read to both Houses this evening.

LATER.-The General Assembly met in joint conven tion to-day, and received a message from Baxter. It simply repeats the story of the recent events, and informs the Legislature that to them is submitted the question who is Governor of Arkansas† He suggests the propriety of cailing a Constitutional Convention, owing to the great want of harmony in the laws, both statutory and constitutional.

Twenty-seven ex-Union soldiers and Northern men

have united in a dispatch to Schator Morton and Gen. John Coburn, contradicting the telegram sent to those gentlemen to the effect that, if Baxter succeeds, the Northern men will be driven out of the State. THE QUESTION UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE

CABINET-NO DECISION REACHED. WASHINGTON, May 14 .- The Cabinet was in session to tay for nearly two hours, engaged in a dis-cussion of the Arkansas problem, and as to the fluid deision of the Government thereon. It seems very cer tain that a determination has been reached as to what course will be proper under the circumstances. Intimations have been made to the officials here that as now in session at Little Rock, and a telegram from there is expected. As soon as it is received the decision of the Government will be announced and measures taken to have it respected by all sides. It is very probable that

this will be done to-night. LATER-The communications expected from Little Rock not having at a late hour to-night been received by the Government, it has taken no final retion in the Arkansas dispute,

A REMARKABLE DISPATCH FROM ONE OF BROOKS'S ADHERENTS - THE PRESIDENT RECEIVES THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE BY TELE-

Washington, May 14.-The following disatch, addressed to Senators Clayton and Dorsey of Arkansas, was received here to-night :

Arkansas, was received here to-night:

BARING CROSS, Ark., May 14.

Have telegraphed to the President at length. See two dispatches. Everything quiet and safe. Members of Legislature say they are dissatisfied; that the thing is a farce, and will only make matters worse, and are going home. Twenty-three men in the House and say in the Senate were sworn in where no vacancies had been declared in order to make a quorum, mostly men serving in Baxter's camp. Nobody is allowed to go into the room where the Legislature have met without a pass from Baxter. The Baxterites are de-House if he had all his adherents in the state under arms. Brooks has all along acted strictly on the defensive, and will continue to do 80. The spirit and morale of his troops were never excelled. No troops ever were mere temperate, orderly, and well-behaved. Baxter's men spend most of their time in scouting and depredating about town in a small way, alarming the citizens and attempting to produce anarchy. They do not want to fight. The skirmish at Argenta was a petty affair; nobody was killed or wounded on either side. Clayton went over there to protect the bringing in of the Fayettevilla arms. Eaxter's Legislature have no intention of investigating the election. The only object of the Baxterites is to overthrow the Government.

The signer of the above dispatch is a prominent law yer of Little Rock, formerly United States Attorney for that district.

LATER.-A dispatch was received to-night by the President, conveying the resolutions of the Arkansas Legislature, asking for the possession of the legislative halls, and for the protection of the State against domes

tic violence.

The reply to this appeal will, in all probability, settle on, and no doubt is entertained that the requests of the Legislature will be generally responded to The President and Attorney General were in consulta-tion late to-night on the question.

THE MISSISSIPPI OVERFLOW

THE SIGNAL OFFICE REPORTS OF THE CONDITION OF THE RIVERS.

WASHINGTON, May 14.-The Signal office reports that during the past 24 hours the Mississippi has fallen two inches at St. Paul, remained stationary from La-Crosse to Warsaw; has fallen from St Louis to Vicksburg, and remained unchanged at New-Orleans; the fall at Cairo was 25 inches. The Mis souri has risen slightly from Yankton to Omaha, and fallen thence to its mouth, except at Brunswick and Hermann, where it has risen two inches. The Ohio has fallen from Pittsburgh to Evansville, and has risen one inch at Paducah. The Red River has fallen seven inches at Shreveport; the berland twenty-two inches at Nashville, and the Allegheny and Monongahela have continued falling at all reporting stations. During the same period the following rainfall is reported within the water shoals of the several rivers named:

In the Mississippi, 57-100ths of an inch at St. Paul; 42-100ths at La Crosse; 22-100ths at Keekuk; and 29-100ths at St. Louis. In the Missouri, 2-100ths at Yank-ton; 23-100ths at Omaha; and 56-100ths at Leavenworth. In the Arkausas, 1-100th at Fort Gibson.

PROJECTED WORKINGMEN'S MASS MEETING. Boston, May 14 .- At an adjourned meeting of delegates from various trades organizations held here to-night, arrangements were made for a grand mass meeting of workingmen to be held in Faneuil Hall next Monday evening. A list of officers and speakers was announced. The resolutions lately adopted in New York denouncing the violations of the Eight-hour law by the United States Government, and demanding the abol-ishment of contract work on public buildings, were read and hearthly applianced.

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS. ATLANTA, May 14 .- The National Agricul tural Congress to-day passed resolutions pledging their and to the people of the overflowed region of the Mississippi River. The subject of memorializing Congress to reduce the tax on tobacco 12 cents per pound, and also to levee the Mississippi River to prevent overflow, were referred to the appropriate committees. Prof. Dodge's address on Agricultural Statistics created a deep sensation. The Direct Trade Convention meet with the Congress in the morning, and the Congress with them in the afternoon. aid to the people of the overflowed region of the Missis

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE CZAR IN ENGLAND. A STATE BANQUET GIVEN BY THE QUEEN-THE CZAR TO VISIT THE EX-EMPRESS EUGENIE.

LONDON, Friday, May 15-5 a. m. The Queen gave a state banquet last night to the Czar and Grand Duke Alexis. The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and other members of the royal family, and Messrs. Gladstone and Disraeli, with all the members of the Cabinet, were present.

The Czar will go to Buckingham Palace at noon to-day, and will probably visit the Empress Eugenia next Sunday.

THE ARREST OF THE GRAND DUKE

NICHOLAS. POLITICS SAID NOT TO BE THE CAUSE. BERLIN, Thursday, May 14, 1874.

The Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung says the arrest of the Russian Grand Duke Nicholas was not due to political causes.

THE REPUBLIC OF SPAIN.

THE NEW MINISTRY SWORN IN-RESIGNATION OF MINOR OFFICIALS.

Madrid, Thursday, May 14, 1874. The new Ministers were sworn into office yesterday. The governors of several provinces and

several other high official have resigned since the change of government.

LONDON, Friday, May 15, 1876.

LONDON, Friday, May 15, 1876. A special dispatch to The Times reports that Gen. Man-uel de la Concha has received orders to hold 8,000 troops

in readiness to march to Madrid. At last accounts Gen. Concha was advancing with 12,000 men on the town of Valmaseda, 20 miles south west of Bilbao, with the intention of driving the Carlists into Navarre.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

THE DUKE DE BROGLIE PERSISTS IN HIS MOTION ON THE ELECTORAL BILL-RISTORI COMING TO THE

UNITED STATES. Paris, Thursday, May 14, 1814. The Duke de Broglie accepts the challenge of the Left and Extreme Right on the Electoral bill, and will make his motion for its immediate discussion a

Cabinet question. Madame Ristori, while in this city on her way to South America, closed an engagement with an American man ager for a series of 50 representations in the United States, to bogin next March.

THE TROUBLES IN THE ANTILLES. GEN. PORTILLO RELIEVED-ARREST OF MEMBERS OF MASONIC LODGES IN PORTO RICO-THEIR POLITI-CAL PURPOSES.

HAVANA, May 14 .- Gens. Portillo and Ponda arrived here to-day. Gen. Coyetano Figueroa bas as-sumed command of the Central Department in place of Advices from San Juan, Porto Rico, state that the

members of a Masonic lodge at Sabana Grande bave been arrested by the police. The Bolctim applands the authorities for the attitude they have assumed against Masonry. It declares that Masons in the Antilles are thoroughly in favor of the separation of the Colonics

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM PRAISED. Lospon, Thursday, May 15-6 a. m.

At a meeting of the Congregational

Board of Education last night, a paper was read by Sir Charles Reed, M. P., in which the educational system of the United States is warmly praised, and the writer expresses the hope that it will be equaled, if not excelled, in England within the next

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO.

THE GRANT TO THE MEXICAN BAILWAY COMPANY DE-CLARED VOID-THE ASSASSINS OF MR. STEPHENS

NOT PUNISHED. MEXICO, May 12 .- The grant to the Limited Mexican Raifroad Company has been declared null and void by Congress. The assassins of the Rev. Mr. Stephens had not been punished up to the 5th of May.

CANADIAN COPYRIGHT LAW.

ADDRESS TO THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO THE REPUBLICATION IN CANADA OF BRITISH COPYRIGHT WORKS.

OTTAWA, Can., May 14 .- In the House last night Mr. Dymond moved a resolution for an address to the Governor-General, praying him to represent to the Imperial Government the desire of the House that the act passed in 1872, permitting the reprinting of British restrictions, should receive the royal assent. He sketched the history of the law of copyright as it at feeted Canada, and pointed out the anomaly of advantages granted to American publishers which were denied to Canadians in the same trade. He illustrated his remarks by reference to numerous instances show high law Canadians.

vantages granted to American photosary when wend denied to Camadians in the same trade. He illustrated his remarks by reference to numerous instances showing how Canadian publishers had suffered, and the Canadian publishers had suffered, and the Canadian publishers had suffered and the Canadian publishers had seen surrounded with difficulties, and that while some British authors, were quite willing to assent to such legislation as was embodied in the act of 182, others were violently opposed to it. The Imperial Government had made suggestions on the subject, but he (Mr. Mackenzie) did not see any way of meeting the question except by the bill to which the motion referred. He was glad the subject had been brought forward, and hoped the action of the House would prove effectual.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The Jubilee Singers are reported to have made \$50,000 by their concerts in England. Another subsidence of the surface at West-

ville (Nova Scotia), which is built over the Acadia coal mine, took place last week. Several buildings were A telegram from Glasgow states that the steamship Ethiopia, which put back for that port on the

23d of April, in consequence of the breaking of her main shaft, reached that place yesterday. Much anxiety is felt at Halifax over the nonarrival of the Anchor Line steamer Trojan, new 36 days

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

MEETING IN BOSTON TO URGE LEGISLATION AGAINST THE BOSTON AND ALBANY RAILROAD Boston, May 14 .- The first cheap transporta-

tion meeting in Boston in many years was held in the Meinaon this evening, its main object being to arouse a popular feeling in favor of the passage of the bill incorporating the Boston and Albany Trust Company, which is now before the Legislature, The meeting was pretty well attended, and considerable interest was manifested. A resolution was offered in favor of the bill, and some interesting speeches were made in its favor. The arguments were that the railroads should be run in the interest of the people, and
that the Boston and Albany had became a monopoly. If
application was made to the directors of the Boston
and Albany road, or the State directors, for cheap
freight, nothing but a rebuiff was received as answer,
but the State had the power, incorporated in the charter,
to take the road in its hands and run it for the good of
the people. If this was done, Boston would
receive her share of the business prosperity
of the country districts. Attorney May spoke for 18 minutes against railroads whose directors were not acting
up to what they were—public trustees. He described
the efforts connected with the appointment of Railroad
Commissioners of the State. He thought the trustees (or
directors of roads) could not manage their roads in the made in its favor. The arguments were that the rail commissioners of the State. He thought if the trustees (or directors of roads) could not manage their roads in the interest of the public, the Legislature had the power to put in authority a set of trustees that would. The fol-lowing Committee was appointed to take whatever measures they deemed advisable to secure the object of the meeting.

Henry J. Naro, J. B. Bartlett, James H. Danforth, Lewis Coleman, George L. Ward, John G. Webster, William H. Healer, C. O. Kstr, A. r. Biake. William Roberts, J. Willard Rice, J. Wilker May, David Leving, Charles W. Wilder, and One Chapp.

The scheme contemplates the taking of the Albany road and paying for it out of its earnings.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE.

Bosron, May 14.-In the Massachusetts enate to-day the resolutions providing for an amendment to the Constitution to secure the elective franchise and the right to hold office to women, was refused a third reading by 14 Yeas to 19 Nays. The Senate also retused a third reading to the Prohibliory bill by a tick vote, 17 to 17, and this question comes up to morrow on